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and continuous experiments discovered that method of coating clay with an opaque hard enamel, which was and is the real foundation of the ceramic art. Later inventions have changed the respective quantity of the ingredients used, but not the substances. These chiefly consist of lead, borax, feldspar and tin. All the exquisite porcelain that is made here or imported, pay-unconscious tribute to the inventive genius and pertinacity of the poor peasant youth, who less than five centuries ago played in the dust of Florence, like any other ragamuffin of the time. But his play of making mud-pies was something that is still carried on, and will be while society endures.

(To be continued.)

ing near by. There is a bay window on the side of the room not shown in the picture, the leaded glass in which was also manufactured by The Linspar Decorating Company. As will be seen in the illustration, the furnishings are of fine construction and are decorated in white and gold, the twin beds standing underneath a richly carved canopy that lends grace and dignity to the apartment.

#### DECORATIVE NOTES.

**P**oint d'esprit curtains with ruffled borders, which have enjoyed a considerable run, appear to have lost favor, and very few importers have duplicated last season's orders. There is still a considerable sale for point d'esprit



LOUIS XVI. BEDROOM IN A NEW YORK RESIDENCE EXECUTED BY THE LINSPAR DECORATING COMPANY.

#### A LOUIS XVI. BEDROOM.

**T**HE illustration of the Louis XVI. bedroom on the present page represents a *fin de siècle* development of this charming style, which has been recently executed for a New York City residence by The Linspar Decorating Company, and is an expensive piece of work throughout. The woodwork is of white enamelled rubbed work, and gilded. The walls are panelled in plain satin and multi-colored fresco in stiling. The borders are executed in Linspar, a feature being a fully-formed cupid holding garlands of flowers. The ceiling in cove is lavishly decorated with Linspar relief in the Louis XVI. style, the centre of ceiling being painted by Tojetti. The subject contains three figures, the largest being a young girl lying asleep on clouds, with a cupid strewing flowers, and another lying asleep on clouds, with a pair of doves fly-

ing near by, for which edgings are manufactured to match.

**N**OTWITHSTANDING the marked activity among loom inventors, the low cost of wool and of other materials entering into carpets, it is now generally believed by the best-informed men in the business that there cannot possibly be any further reduction in the price of goods in the immediate future. The list (wholesale) price of Lowell ingrain, the standard, is now fifty cents, to which point it has fallen from \$2.25 per yard. At the present price there is no profit in the manufacture, and some of the largest concerns in the country have passed several successive dividends. It is unfortunately true that both here and in England the quality of many kinds of carpets has steadily deteriorated during the past few years, a point which the average consumer is unable to detect, except after actual trial of the fabric.